

Washington, D.C. 20505

OLC 79-0204/b

Honorable James T. McIntyre, Jr., Director
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

I have been informed that the Office of Management and Budget intends to deny clearance of Titles IV and V of the draft "Intelligence and Intelligence-Related Activities Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1980" for transmittal to the Congress. I am distressed by this development and I am requesting your personal intervention to reverse this determination.

Titles IV and V were included in my proposed Central Intelligence Agency Legislative Program, which was forwarded to your Assistant Director for Legislative Reference on 15 November 1978. Title IV would provide educational travel benefits for dependents of CIA employees serving overseas; Title V provides for the payment of a death gratuity to the survivors of certain CIA personnel.

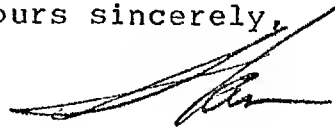
Both of these titles are designed to correct serious existing inequities by insuring that benefits available to CIA personnel serving overseas are comparable to those received by employees of other Executive Branch agencies in similar circumstances. Title IV overlaps with a legislative proposal on educational travel benefits submitted by the Department of State as part of a package of proposals implementing recommendations made by an Inter-Agency Committee on Overseas Allowances and Benefits. Your staff argues that the subject requires a government-wide approach. But prospects for omnibus federal employee benefit packages in this congressional session are dubious at best, and your staff is not willing to assure that OMB itself will clear the State Department proposal. Your staff makes the same government-wide approach argument with respect to our

Title V proposal, but in this case no omnibus proposal is under consideration, and your staff offers no encouragement about the outlook for OMB treatment of such an initiative.

The inequities and hardships borne by CIA employees due to lack of access to educational travel benefits for their dependents comparable to those enjoyed by Department of State and International Communication Agency employees are a source of tension and resentment at overseas posts. The issue is a highly emotional one, because it involves a matter central to maintenance of the family unit under what are often adverse conditions. The inequity sought to be remedied by Title V is even more startling; it involves the urgent need to correct the erroneous impression that the lives of CIA personnel are somehow worth less to their country than are those of their State Department colleagues. The expenditure that would be necessitated by the enactment of the death gratuity provision would (hopefully) be minimal, but the negative psychological impact of OMB refusal to clear this provision would be enormous.

President Carter recently has stressed the importance of the human factor in intelligence collection. These are our people in the field. I do not believe that the President would want his Office of Management and Budget to create the impression that his Administration disregards the welfare and morale of intelligence personnel who daily sacrifice the comforts of home to serve their country. I sincerely hope that you will instruct your staff to reconsider your Office's position on Titles IV and V of the Intelligence Authorization Bill.

Yours sincerely,



STANSFIELD TURNER

P.S. Attracting a continued flow of good volunteers for overseas duty is a major problem - correcting imbalances such as these, as much perceived as real, at very little cost (\$2500/yr) is important.

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